withdrawn before the provision of a telephone, the amount of deposit is also paid back with interest.

अलमाट्टी बांध परियोजना हेतु सहायता

1340. **श्री महेश्वर सिंह:** क्या जल संसाधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने अलमाट्टी बांध परियोजना के लिए लगभग 200 करोड़ रुपए का अनुदान प्रदान करने का निर्णय लिया है, जो सरकार द्वारा आज तक किसी भी पन बिजली परियोजना के निर्माण हेतु दी गई सबसे अधिक एक मुश्त राशि है; और

(ख) सरकार द्वारा देश में उक्त परियोजना के अलावा, राज्यवार किन-किन पन-बिजली परियोजनाओं के निर्माण के लिए इस वर्ष अनुदान के रूप में कितनी-कितनी धनराशि प्रदान करने का निर्णय लिया गया है?

जल संसाधन मंत्री (श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र): (क) और (ख) जी नहीं। अपर कृष्णा परियोजना चरण I फेज-III अर्थात् इन्डी शाखा नहर विस्तार के 62 कि० मी० से 172 कि० मी० तक, 0 से 85 कि० मी० तक ज्यारेगो शाखा नहर और अलमट्टी बायीं तट नहर (लिफ्ट) के निर्माण के लिए चालू सिंचाई और बहुप्रयोजनों-परियोजनाओं को शीघ्र पूरा करने के लिए जल संसाधन मंत्रालय के वर्ष 1996-97 के बजट में 900 करोड़ का रुपए का प्रावधान करते हुए केन्द्रीय सरकार ने "त्वरित सिंचाई लाभ कार्यक्रम" के तहत केन्द्रीय ऋण सहायता के रूप में 114 करोड़ रुपए की राशि स्वीकृत की है। अलमट्टी बांध अपर कृष्णा परियोजना का घटक है।

अन्य बहुप्रयोजनों परियोजनाओं जैसे सरदार सरोवर 93 करोड़ रुपए, बाण सागर 31 करोड़ रुपए, इन्दिरा सागर 50 करोड़ रुपए, रणजीत सागर 90.00 करोड़ रुपए आदि के लिए भी केन्द्रीय ऋण सहायता स्वीकृत की गई है।

Pending Applications for Telephone Connections in Kolhapur, Maharashtra

1341. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for telephone connections pendings with Kolhapur of Maharashtra as on 30th September, 1996;

(b) the reasons for pendency; and

(c) by when the waiting list is expected to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) The number of applications for telephone connections pending with Kolhapur as on 30th September is 2104.

(b) Due to non availability of exchange capacity.

(c) The above waiting list is likely to be cleared by March 1997.

Americans Stand on Kashmir

1342. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported assurance given by US-Administration to a visiting Pakistani delegation in September this year that US continue to treat Kashmir as a disputed territory, questioning the validity of the Instrument of accession; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Government is aware of the visit of a Pakistani delegation to Washington from September 16—19, 1996 comprising Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, MNA and leader of the National Peoples' Party, Syed Iftikhar Gilani, MNA representing the opposition PML, and Shafkat Mehmood, Senate Member representing the PPP

During their meetings with US Government officials, they apparently put forward the Pakistani view of the situation in J&K and the Parliamentary and State Assembly elections in the state. It is understood that the US, officials, on their part, reterated the US Government position on the matter.

(d) The Government, of India regards J&K as an integral and inalienable part of India.

Outstanding Dues of Maharashtra from Central Government for Providing police services

1343. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a sum of Rs. 19 crores was spent by State Government of Maharashtra on deputing 12 companies of State Police Force in New Delhi between May, 1990 to April, 1993 and out of which Rs. 57 lakhs is still recoverable from his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the outstanding claim of the State Government is likely to be settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (c) The State Government of Maharashtra had raised bills amounting to Rs. 17,22,95,606.00 toward deployment charges in respect of 12 companies of State police force placed at the disposal of Delhi Police for assisting the law and order duties between May, 1990 to July, 1993. All these bills excepting four amounting to Rs. 37,83,571.00 have since been settled. The remaining four bills had to be returned to the State Government because of incomplete documentation.

Clogging in the Ports

1344. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that expansion of trade and industries in India is suffering due to chronically clogged ports;

(b) if so, whether Government have conducted any study about the extent of clogging in the ports; if so, the names of such ports; and

(c) the steps propose to be taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Law for Wearing Helmets by Pillion Riders

1345. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi High Court has recently asked the Union Government to state the reasons for not enforcing the law compelling pillion riders on two wheelers to wear helmets, since its enactment in 1988;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to enforce the law; and

(c) if so, by when, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) to (c) A case has been filed in the High Court of Delhi in which the petitioner has challenged the non-implementation of Section 129 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 as per which it is compulsory for the driver as well as pillion rider of a 2-wheeler to wear a helmet conforming to the standards of BIS. The Government of India has stated in its affidavit that provisions of Motor Vehicles Act including that of Section 129 need to be enforced by the enforcing agencies i.e. State Government/Union Territories. No final orders/directions have been received in this matter from the High Court.